

Appln No. 10/688,712

Amdt date January 10, 2005

Reply to Office action of December 9, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office action mailed December 9, 2004. Claims 6-9 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 22-23 are added to more completely cover certain aspects of the invention. Claims 14-20 are withdrawn. Claims 1-5, 10-13 and 21-23 are pending for examination in the application.

On page 2 of the Office action, the Examiner states that restriction to one of the following species directed to the different surgical methods is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

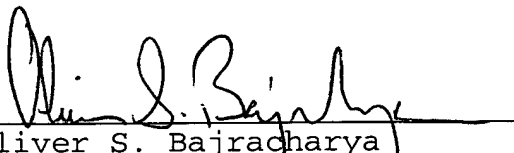
- 1) Determining coaptation of a valve;
- 2) Method for positioning an implant.

Applicant elects Species 1, determining coaptation of a valve, for further prosecution on the merits. Claims 1-5, 10-13 and 21-23 are readable on Species 1.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1-5, 10-13, and 21-23.

Respectfully submitted,

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